

REF ID: A67089

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SHEAFFER JEANNE M
78 MONTEVIDEO 3143

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"AMERICAN FIELD SERVICE" EXCHANGE STUDENT IN 1965-66,
FROM WHICH STEMS EXTENSIVE CONGRESSIONAL AND AMERICAN
CITIZEN INTEREST IN THE CASE. IN LATE 1977 THE CITIZENS
OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE, WHERE HE HAD ATTENDED SCHOOL,
COMPILED A 2500-NOME PETITION ON HIS BEHALF.
BAZZANO WAS REPORTEDLY A LEADER OF THE URUGUAYAN
COMMUNIST YOUTH ORGANIZATION, ARRESTED ON 4 APRIL
1975 FOR PARTICIPATING IN AN ILLEGAL DEMONSTRATION. HE
WAS INDICTED IN LATE MAY 1975 ON THE CHARGE OF "ASSISTING
A SUBVERSIVE ORGANIZATION". CONTRADICTORY REPORTS INDI-
CATE THAT IN MAY 1976 THE COURT ORDERED HIS RELEASE ON
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BAIL AND EITHER HE WAS NEVER FREED OR HE WAS REARRESTED
ALMOST IMMEDIATELY ON THE SAME CHARGES. IT APPEARS CERTAIN
THAT BAZZANO WAS HELD INCOMMUNICADO FROM MID-MAY 1976
TO LATE OCTOBER, ALLEGEDLY BECAUSE OF HEALTH PROBLEMS
WHICH REQUIRED TREATMENT AT THE LOCAL MILITARY HOSPITAL.
SINCE THEN HIS FAMILY HAS BEEN ABLE TO VISIT HIM EVERY
15 DAYS AT HIS PLACE OF CONFINEMENT, LIBERTAD PRISON.
REPORTEDLY, ON 7 FEBRUARY 1977 THE CHARGE AGAINST
BAZZANO WAS INCREASED TO "MEMBERSHIP IN A SUBVERSIVE
ORGANIZATION". WE UNDERSTAND, HOWEVER, THAT HE WAS RE-
CENTLY SENTENCED TO 4-1/2 YEARS IN PRISON, A COMPARATIVELY
MILD SENTENCE FOR THE NEW CHARGE. BECAUSE BAZZANO HAS
ALREADY SERVED MORE THAN HALF OF HIS SENTENCE HE IS
ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE.

C. WASHINGTON DE VARGAS SACCONI (DOB: 29 NOVEMBER 1951)
IS A CASE OF WIDESPREAD INTERNATIONAL INTEREST AMONG
HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS,
THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THE AMERICAN CONGRESS. AUSTRIA,
WHICH HAS SPEARHEADED INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS ON HIS BEHALF,
HAS ON ONE OCCASION DELIVERED A DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO THE
FOREIGN MINISTRY REQUESTING INFORMATION ABOUT HIS WELFARE
AND HAS OFFERED HIM A VISA WHENEVER HE IS ABLE TO USE IT.
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DE VARGAS WAS ALLEGEDLY A TUPAMARO INVOLVED IN AN ARMED RAID ON THE TOWN OF PANDO IN 1970. ON 21 MAY 1972 HE WAS ARRESTED, ALLEGEDLY ABUSED, AND SUBSEQUENTLY CHARGED WITH "ORGANIZING A CRIME", "CONSPIRACY AGAINST THE CONSTITUTION" AND "ACTS PREPARATORY (TO A CRIME)". IN NOVEMBER 1973 DE VARGAS WAS OFFERED PROVISIONAL LIBERTY (A KIND OF PAROLE) BUT, AFTER HIS FAMILY HAD PAID A SUBSTANTIAL SUM TO COVER HIS PRISON EXPENSES, HE WAS NOT RELEASED. INSTEAD, HE WAS TRANSFERRED SUCCESSIVELY TO DETENTION CENTERS IN THE INTERIOR OF THE COUNTRY WHERE HE REMAINED FOR FOUR YEARS. IN 1976, HE REPORTEDLY WAS AGAIN MISTREATED, TO THE POINT THAT HE TWICE ATTEMPTED SUICIDE. IN AUGUST 1977, HE WAS REMOVED TO A CIVILIAN PLACE OF DETENTION, LIBERTAD PRISON, WHERE HE REPORTEDLY AGAIN TRIED TO KILL HIMSELF AFTER BEING TOLD THAT HE WAS GOING TO BE TRANSFERRED BACK TO MILITARY CONFINEMENT.

ON 21 JUNE 1976 DE VARGAS HAD BEEN SENTENCED TO SIX YEARS IN PRISON COMMENCING ON THE DATE OF HIS ORIGINAL ARREST, AND DUE TO EXPIRE ON 21 MAY 1978. A FEW WEEKS BEFORE HIS SCHEDULED RELEASE HE DISAPPEARED AND RESURFACED THREE WEEKS LATER IN THE LOCAL MILITARY HOSPITAL, REPORTEDLY WITH A TOOTH MISSING AND MARKS OF A BEATING. HE IS NOW IN LIBERTAD PRISON, FIVE

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MONTHS AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF HIS SENTENCE, ALLEGEDLY BECAUSE HE IS UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR COMPLICITY IN THE MURDER OF TWO HOSPITAL GUARDS IN THE EARLY 1970'S. THIS CHARGE HAD BEEN RAISED AT HIS FIRST TRIAL BUT WAS THROWN OUT OF COURT FOR LACK OF EVIDENCE.

REPORTEDLY, DE VARGAS SUFFERS FROM EPILEPSY, A SERIOUS NERVOUS DISORDER AND MANIC-DEPRESSION, ALL OF WHICH REQUIRE MEDICATION.

3. DECLASSIFY UPON RECEIPT.

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